

■ FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Reopening Suez important for Soviet interests

Will the Suez Canal be reopened this year? And who stands to gain most if it is – the Egyptians or the Israelis, Russia or the West?

When Edward Heath paid Washington his first visit as British Premier the Suez Canal was one of the most important items on the agenda.

The same topic dominated his recent talks with Archbishop Makarios in Cyprus and is to the forefront of political and strategic considerations at the Commonwealth Conference in Singapore.

Technically speaking reopening the Canal presents no particular problems. Basing their calculations on experience gained in 1956 the Egyptians reckon it will take four to five months and cost 22 million dollars.

The Israelis are more sceptical that salvaging and dredging will take at least two years and cost 200 to 250 million.

As in 1956, when the World Bank provided 56.6 million dollars towards the cost of reopening the Canal, Cairo is hoping for foreign capital assistance.

Japanese salvage firms head the list of companies interested in clearing the Canal of the sunken ships and mines that at present make it impassable.

In political and military terms a reopening would present problems that no one suspected would arise when, in June 1967, the Canal was closed as a result of the Arab-Israeli war.

Since 1967 the Soviet Union has gained such a firm foothold in the Middle East that a reopening of the Canal would in military terms be first and foremost to the Kremlin's benefit.

Over the past three and a half years the Soviet Navy in the Mediterranean has increased from five cruisers and the same number of submarines to thirty surface vessels and ten submarines based in Egypt, Syria, Libya and Algeria.

Dom Mintoff, leader of the Maltese Opposition Labour Party, only recently felt obliged to deny allegations that he would offer the Soviet Union the shipyards facilities vacated by Britain were he to win the forthcoming elections.

Ambiguously enough, though, Mintoff went on to note that he was prepared to negotiate with any power that would protect Malta from aggression.

He would only be prepared to conclude a pact with Britain on condition that the island is excluded from the Nato defence network.

The airstrips in Egypt used by the Soviet Union have increased in number from 21 in 1967 to thirty at the present time. Five hundred bombproof pads have been built for Soviet MiGs.

In the Indian Ocean the Soviet Union has moved in to plug the gap left when Britain pulled out in 1968. It is present has stationed there one cruiser, three destroyers, four conventional subs, and one nuclear submarine, one submarine mother ship and any number of supply vessels.

The Soviet Indian Ocean squadron operates from Hodeida in the Yemen, Berbera, Somalia, Socotra, an island at the entrance to the Red Sea, and Mauritius, where the Russians have negotiated fishing rights and an air base.

In Aden, brought virtually to a standstill since the closure of the Canal, 500 Russian, East Germans, North Korean and Bulgarian technicians have taken over from British personnel.

Soviet pilots fly the country's ten MiG jet fighters and five Antonov transport planes and the Aden harbour master and

Khormaksar airport personnel are also Russians.

Ninety-eight Britons are fighting a losing battle, as it were, in staying on to man the oil refinery.

At the same time, much to Russia's disgust, more and more advisers are arriving from Peking, which is providing the People's Republic of the Yemen with arms and interest-free loans.

Reopening of the Suez Canal would allow the Soviet Union to link its Mediterranean and Indian Ocean flotillas and save Soviet trade with the Far East the really long way round of either the Cape of Good Hope or Vladivostok.

Prior to the June 1967 closure of the Canal 1,800 Soviet merchantmen a year, more than a tenth of Moscow's maritime trade, used the Suez route.

Reopening would also represent a direct financial gain for the Kremlin in that the Egyptian economy it is supporting would once more benefit from the foreign currency earnings of Canal dues.

Mind you, Egypt would then probably forfeit the 250 million dollars per annum it is at present receiving from Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Libya to offset the loss of what used to be 220 million dollars a year in Canal revenue.

In view of the likely repercussions of a reopening of the Suez Canal in terms of power politics Mr Heath, in close consultation with President Nixon, has thoroughly revised British policy in the Middle East.

There is no longer a mention of Britain pulling out east of Suez by any means as fast as was intended.

In order to counter the Soviet presence in the Mediterranean the Prime Minister requested Archbishop Makarios to allow Britain to continue to use the Cyprus bases of Akrotiri and Dhekelia, where 12,000 men are still stationed.

In the Indian Ocean the Conservatives propose to resume military cooperation with South Africa, abandoned for many years because of differences of opinion over apartheid, and to sell arms to the South Africans.

There can be no doubt that the bargaining over a reopening of the Suez Canal is an important card in Israel's hand as far as the United States is concerned. The Israelis would also like to use the Canal, preferably achieving this aim with the aid of American assistance.

If they prove unable to do so Israel too would have little alternative but to participate in a pax Sovietica over Suez.

R. A. König

(WELT am SONNTAG, 17 January 1971)

Sekou Touré outrages world opinion

Maybe Hermann Seibold did commit suicide. Fear of the gallows may have prompted him to put an end to it all. Maybe, on the other hand, the prison warders did do the executioner's work for him.

President Sekou Touré of Guinea certainly lays himself open to this serious allegation and will continue to do so until he agrees to allow independent doctors to determine Seibold's cause of death.

Days beforehand Development Aid Minister Erhard Eppler, speaking in Bonn, warned against taking a too dramatic view of events in Conakry. Autocrat Sekou Touré seems to have paid precious little heed to Bonn's restraint.

Erhard Eppler has now called on other African countries to bring pressure to bear on Guinea. Is this really all that Bonn can do?

The days of punitive expeditions and gunboat diplomacy are now over but it is really intolerable that citizens of this country are subject to such arbitrary treatment in a country that Bonn is lending an economic hand, and with which Bonn would like nothing better than to be on cordial terms.

The government ought to appeal not only to African countries but also to its allies so as to achieve a degree of solidarity in the face of a self-styled statesman whose behaviour is not deserving of normal diplomatic responses.

Sad to say there are grounds for

Hans Leymann

(Kieler Nachrichten, 21 January 1971)

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European Common Market faces major difficulties

Over the next eleven months the European Common Market (EEC) faces the prospect of either taking the great leap forward or experiencing crises that for the first time in more than thirteen years would no longer be growing pains but the first signs of paralysis.

Success or failure depends on the fate of two projects: Britain's EEC entry bid and progress towards an economic and currency union.

The frequent claim that as a result of the boost in trade between each other EEC countries have such a vested interest in the continuation of the Common Market that they no longer dare break it up is mistaken.

The drawback of this point of no return theory is that the interest of all European countries in free trade could be upheld regardless of the EEC's demise. The only immediate loser would be industry, which would have lost a guaranteed home market.

The uncertainty has gained in momentum since the failure in mid-December of the first attempt to launch an economic and currency union. France not showing willing.

Paris objected less to the Five's 1980 target of a common currency, fixed rates of exchange and pooling of currency reserves (from which inflationary tendencies in France would stand only to benefit) than to the accompanying demands for a common economic policy aimed at keeping the value of money stable together with the necessary European decision-making and executive bodies.

Paris is not yet prepared to go into details of the amount of sovereignty it might or might not be prepared to surrender to European institutions.

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supranational, federal or EEC author.

Paris is now outraged because like the other four members of Common Market, is insisting on establishment of new Common Ma

Those who, like Genscher, want to keep the party in the middle of the road will have to grip the wheel firmly. The FDP, having sailed past the Scylla and Charybdis of the national liberal breakaway has still not sailed back into calm waters.

Willy Weyer who wanted to give his party the watchword not to recognise national liberals nor left-wing liberals, but simply and solely "liberal" noted with bitterness that throughout the rank and file of the FDP there was talk of "conservatives" and "progressives" and some of the talk also got into print.

Those liberals who favour the things that have been favoured all along by the FDP are, to the progressives, conservatives; whereas the progressives are in the eyes of the others to a greater or lesser extent "socialists".

As the range of ground covered by the FDP increases so does diversification increases tensions within the party.

Genscher speaks of the party of the centre while Helmut Kohl puts the party virtually on an equal footing with the CDU.

The Young Democrats are able to strike up an understanding with the Young Socialists with the greatest of ease.

While the role of the FDP in the Bonn coalition is, as Genscher sees it, to act as a liberal corrective whenever the SPD veers to the left, the progressives in the party see it as their task to guide the SPD whenever it takes a conservative course.

While Genscher is worried about those voters who will not vote for the FDP if it seems to be too left-wing the progressives are hoping to win those voters for whom the SPD does not seem progressive enough.

Is it possible for the FDP to place its hopes on right-wing and left-wing voters, both at the same time? Is it not true that the progressives will lose the party the last of their regular voters without winning them any new voters?

This is a risk they are prepared to take and they say so quite openly. Those who are like the renegades of Stuttgart and claim that they will quit the party if the party does not approve their political views and intentions put the existence of their party in jeopardy.

For some time no promising candidate for the position in the senate appeared to be available and it looked as though Schulz who had proved very successful as "Schulzenator" might lose the chance to become Hamburg's number one man because he could not be released from this commitment.

He is an energetic man, full of ideas, knows where he is going, yet is modest. A statement made by the previous burgomaster Herbert Weichmann, early this month when he was at a reception for the corps consulaire is fitting: "The course we are steering does not allow for any wild, adventurous divergences."

Peter Schulz - Hamburg's new mayor



(Photo: Marianne von der Lancken)

be leaving his post in the midst of his legislative period.

Three candidates stood for the position of senator responsible for education and in the end Günter Apel, acting national chairman of the white-collar workers' union (DAG), received 36 of the 67 votes cast.

Apel, who has never before been a member of the Hamburger Bürgerschaft, the Hanseatic city state's parliament, has been a member of the Social Democrat party for ten years.

Since 1963 he has been actively engaged in building up the departments of education and professional policy within the DAG.

Günter Apel is a refugee from the GDR. Before he fled the communist regime he was at the Pädagogische Akademie in Erfurt, where he was trained as an elementary school teacher. In 1953 he graduated at the Freie Universität, West Berlin, in political science.

In their search for the new senior burgomaster the SPD "searchers" had an easy task. Peter Schulz is a rare combination of some of the most important qualities for this exalted position.

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Modest entry in city's handbook

Of the 120 curricula vitae that are contained in the handbook of the Hamburger Bürgerschaft only seven contain fewer than six printed lines. One of these is the synopsis that Peter Schulz wrote to the rest of the party.

The Young Socialists are obviously not taking too much notice of the SPD's urge that they should open no doors to the Communists and the party leadership cannot be content with their consoling words that no doors will be opened that cannot be closed.

The fact that the SPD itself can be suspected of the slightest tendencies towards a popular front appears to their chairman, Willy Brandt, as the greatest peril not only for the next election but also for his Ostpolitik.

CDU politicians are disturbed that their party political conference may treat the idea of reform too conservatively. Social Democratic politicians fear that reform will be overemphasised at theirs. The politicians at the head of the FDP cannot foresee what boundaries their party political conference will draw between liberal and socialist reform.

Despite the praise that he has won, the Young Socialists are going their own way. Nor should it be believed that they received no applause for this from the elders of the party.

By the end of this year the SPD must be firmly decided where it is going; in this respect the FDP has only until the summer to make up its mind and, as for the CDU, we shall know in a few weeks time.

Alfred Rapp

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 21 January 1971)

A few months later he had achieved the position of senator responsible for legal affairs. At the last Hamburg local elections in autumn he was given his most difficult job, as head of the school authorities.

He held this position with great success like a business manager who has a sure eye for policies that come within the realm of the possible, and he succeeded in keeping education policy from the crossfire of criticism.

Peter Schulz is married to a doctor and has two children. When he takes up his position as successor to Herbert Weichmann in the summer he will be Hamburg's youngest burgomaster since 1678. He will rank alongside the Prime Minister of the Rhineland-Palatinate, Helmut Kohl, as the youngest government leader in the Federal Republic.

The CDU opposition in Hamburg announced after the election that it would appraise Schulz on the yardstick of his predecessor.

Gert Kistner

(Handelsblatt, 20 January 1971)

HOME AFFAIRS

More public property would help beat land speculators

During the course of Man's history there has always been private property, usually a subject of controversy. It was condemned as theft or hallowed as an inviolable right.

Views swayed between these extremes. There is an echo of this in Basic Law where property is guaranteed and given special protection. But it also imposes social obligations upon the owner. If property is misused he is threatened with confiscation and nationalisation, both of which are envisaged as final expedients in Basic Law.

Lawyers and philosophers may argue about whether the right of property or its social obligation should be given priority. One thing is certain - constitutional reality does not fit all the framework established in Basic Law. Legislation and the administration of justice have stressed the claims of the individual more than his social obligations.

As far as the political aspect is concerned, that is not surprising after twenty years of Christian Democrat and Christian Social Union rule. The CDU/CSU always governed in a predominantly conservative and middle-class manner.

At the same time it must be admitted that the idea of placing the interests of the community above any others was greatly abused by the Nazis and Communism has not ceased to provide alarming examples.

Job changing negligible

Of the eight million men in the Federal Republic who served apprenticeships or similar training after finishing school only five million, or 64 per cent, are still in the same profession.

This is one of the results of a survey into job-changing conducted by the Institute for Labour Market and Career Research, a department of the Federal Labour Bureau in Erlangen. The survey also showed that there were considerable differences between the various professions.

The men most likely to be working in the job they were taught are those in administrative posts or office jobs (79 per cent), electricians (77 per cent) and those in building jobs (74 per cent).

Lower percentages were recorded in the leather and tanning industry (37) and the food manufacturing trade (45 per cent). The survey included all male workers who had had apprenticeship or similar training, though without having attended career training courses at vocational colleges or universities.

The labour market situation for jobs involving apprenticeship and similar training becomes worse, the higher the percentage of people switching to other professions where they cannot use what they have been taught and the smaller the number of persons who have come from other professions.

The labour market situation is particularly bad for coopers, wheelwrights, saddlers, cobblers, bakers, millers, basket-weavers, turners, milkers, rubber-workers, tanners and carlarmen.

The position is good for milling operatives, telephone engineers, chemical workers, laboratory technicians, insurance salesmen, plumbers, heating and ventilation installers, electrical engineers, bank employees and industrial salesmen.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 13 January 1971)

Römer Grotto, Munich

Though the CDU's Ahlen programme just after the war proposed nationalisation, this was a reaction to the shameful role played by major firms in giving Hitler financial support and preparing the way for the Third Reich.

The sands of time soon obscured past memories and the idea of widespread distribution of property among private individuals soon developed as resistance to influence from the Communist East. If possible, everybody was to have his own house and his own share in the State and therefore independence.

The intentions were good. But results were unsatisfactory in two respects - property is unfairly distributed and the social obligations of property are not very strongly emphasised.

It is obvious that this is the cause of discord. Discussions on social services policy are increasingly centred on this subject. Demands for a more equal distribution of the increase in wealth are now the fashion.

This refers to the amount of wealth arising in the industrial concerns. A wider distribution of the rights of ownership is hardly disputed in theory, even though it is not easy to carry out in practice.

Efforts of this type are always based on the prevailing ideology. Private property as an institution is not to be violated, only its distribution.

It is significant for the growing realisation of the necessities that a middle of road liberal like Willi Weyer, Free Democrat chairman in the Federal state of North Rhine-Westphalia, has recommended that local councils ought to buy more land and lease it leasehold.

To do this of course they need money and a right of pre-emption that excludes private speculative gains. If the FDP helps to put such a right into practice, at first in the Urban Construction Aid Law for development areas, it will have shown that it knows which way the wind is blowing.

Gerhard Meyenburg
(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 9 January 1971)

Bonus cars to induce workers to remain loyal to the firm

Firms are driven to extreme expedients in order to keep their workers. This is particularly true of the building trade where the large proportion of foreign workers leads to a high turnover of employees that is all the more unwelcome because of the expense.

Employers like loyalty from their workers. To encourage this praiseworthy quality, the bosses, ruled by deadlines and commissions, do not shun unusual ideas.

The latest example is the loan of a car to building workers. Franz Weissenberger, a building contractor in the small town of Börgisch-Gladbach, wants to provide all his employees, from directors to casual workers with a car - for their comfort and to the credit of the firm.

At present some 900 people are working for Franz Weissenberger. He will therefore have to provide that many cars in the next few years. Every employee will receive a bright red Opel Kadett.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 13 January 1971)

Reiner Langwadt
(CHRIST UND WELT, 18 January 1971)

But it is often difficult to put into practice what is sensible. Otherwise a stop would have been put to land speculation. Public enterprise here constantly increases the market value of land through its planning and investment, including the building of communal amenities.

It is only the owner who derives any benefit from this. To him belongs the increase in value which he has not worked to achieve - and he does not even have to declare it for tax purposes.

In this not one of the privileges of private property that infringes upon the interests of society and which can no longer be accepted?

The main reason it cannot be accepted is that the increase in land values makes building so expensive. This is one of the causes of the high rents now being charged. Only by stressing the general interest will building land be available under reasonable conditions.

The mechanism of the market economy must not be allowed free rein here as land cannot be increased and is naturally scarce. People offering land for sale are automatically at an advantage.

It is no coincidence that Professor Leibholz, a member of the Federal Constitutional Court, recently pointed out that Basic Law does not compel a free market economy.

That does not mean to say that the social obligations of land ownership can only be maintained by nationalisation. Pragmatic solutions must be sought.

But the wish for more public property must not be despised from the very start and rejected as revolutionary. This is the only way to provide a sufficient quantity of recreational facilities for all.

An increase in public property could also be of advantage in the provision of building land, providing that local councils do not speculate.

The question of private property becomes more explosive where land is concerned. That is altogether understandable. You only have to think of the shores of the beautiful lakes in this country that have been bought up by the rich.

In his indignation, the small man can identify himself completely with the general interest. With prices as high as they are, he cannot even think of buying a stretch for himself. Free access to all must seem to be the most sensible solution to him. And it really is.

The consequences for the labour market, the finances of the insurance scheme and the economy would then remain within limits. If they proved tolerable, further steps could be made. The conditions of employees must be tested if insurance schemes are to remain healthy financially.

Gerda Brings
(Kieler Nachrichten, 13 January 1971)

ger's employees are flocking to driving schools.

This stunt soon brought Weissenberger the desired result. Rolf Reutzhelm states: "This step has already had a positive effect on the labour market."

Another of Weissenberger's brainwaves has already proved just as successful. Weissenberger concluded building society contracts for his workers. They each paid 100 Marks a month for four years as a house could then be bought with the help of an additional loan from their employer of 8,000 Marks and a 20,000 Marks building costs subsidy. The house-owners now have to pay 220 Marks a month. This sum is reduced after eleven years have elapsed.

Investing in a good working atmosphere and in the loyalty of its workers will have an analytic function if it shows what conditions provoke violence or lead to the glorification of violence or how violence becomes a matter of policy.

The depiction of violence only becomes dangerous when the distribution of roles turns it into a means of political manipulation - if for example the enemy who has been brutally liquidated stands for a social group that is discriminated against or for an oppressed race.

Reiner Langwadt
(CHRIST UND WELT, 18 January 1971)

Early retirement is costly Only education can reduce violence

Retiring early can be very expensive. Despite this, about 75 per cent of workers demand a flexible age pension insurance scheme. The Federal Confederation has backed the appeal, though without considerably reducing the expense it would entail.

In the re drafted version of Paragraph 184 of the penal code - the paragraph preventing the distribution of obscene publications - Minister of Justice Gerhard John plans to make the "glorification of violence" illegal.

This month the ZDF, this country's second television service, has started an analysis of the content of its programmes. This is the first step of a joint research project into brutality to be conducted by the ARD (the first television service), the ZDF and the Ministry of Health, which is also responsible for family affairs.

The controversial programme *Aktenzeichen XY* - a programme calling for viewer information on unsolved crimes - is also to be considered.

The wave of brutality in the mass media came along with the wave of nudity. The lust for violence is continually increasing and the glorification of violence is becoming more and more established in the depiction of "entertaining" brutality in "hard" pornography, sadistic comic strips and certain TV series and films.

The seeds of violence have given forth fruit - James Bond, Bonnie and Clyde and sadistic comic strip characters are the heroes of the Western world.

But there is one question that people will ask themselves. Why ban the depiction of violence for adults when pornography is going to be allowed as people have realised that adult citizens should decide for themselves what they want to do, read or see?

What is more, is the censorship of sadistic comic strips and brutal pornography and the removal of murder and killing from the TV and film screen really an effective method to combat the lust for violence? Is this not confusing cause and effect? Is murder no more than a symptom of a world that is becoming increasingly brutal?

Napalm bombs in Vietnam, massacres in Nigeria, hijacking, the kidnapping of diplomats, the Tupamaros in South America, the guerrillas in the Middle East, Irish and Canadian terrorists, the racial conflict in the United States, the millions of people who die in motor accidents and TV violence all supplement each other.

It only goes to prove that atavistic notions of the law of the jungle still exist in our society along with the demands for more and more humanisation.

Armin Halstenberg
(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 16 January 1971)

Just as experts are still arguing about the effects of pornography, there is still some dispute on the effects that the glorification of violence has.

Some experts view it as a safety valve. The depiction of brutality is supposed to overcome nightmares, psychoses, neuroses and aggression.

Other experts stress the supposed causal connection between TV series and riots, comic strips and crime among the young, crime films and crime.

One thing is certain and that is that each individual reacts differently when confronted by violence, according to background, upbringing and education.

The effect of brutality cannot therefore be made a collective problem with a simple legal solution.

Finally, the depiction of brutality can have an analytic function if it shows what conditions provoke violence or lead to the glorification of violence or how violence becomes a matter of policy.

The depiction of violence only becomes dangerous when the distribution of roles turns it into a means of political manipulation - if for example the enemy who has been brutally liquidated stands for a social group that is discriminated against or for an oppressed race.

Reiner Langwadt
(CHRIST UND WELT, 18 January 1971)

shown is therefore more important than the investigation into possible effects.

There are for example the Western series imported from the United States. The entertaining fights and duels in these series are all ideologically fixed. It is not the death of a person that counts but only who shoots at whom and why.

If one of the Bonanza heroes is shot at, it is an act of brutality, if a Cartwright shoots, it is a legitimate means of defence or the just punishment for an injustice the dead man has committed - an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth. This encourages fatally, "healthy" public opinion and not only that of America's silent majority for whom these series are filmed. It is then not such a big step the demands for the death sentence in cases of crimes of violence.

The brutality shown as a just punishment also confirms that wishful political thinking of law and order, strengthened by the fetish of masculinity typical of these series, the identification of masculinity with violence and the myth of the political father figure, the strong man who intervenes where necessary. This series off on the audience and the results are well-known.

The heroes of detective series also fight for law and order, mainly by breaking the rules. Al Mundy can pinch things without being punished, but only because he is doing it for his country.

When the weather becomes warmer she is going to take possession of lawns by staging sit-ins with crowds of children. But doesn't she fear the police or indignant caretakers?

"I would like to see what people really do when I sit down on the lawn with a picnic basket and a crowd of children," Ursula Redepenning says.

"At present children are neurotic as soon as they start school as they are trained in overcrowded kindergartens."

That is why the youngest member of the Bavarian Provincial Assembly who was allowed to speak first in the new legislative period - and she is not even Bavarian as she was born in Duren - will also deal with kindergarten questions in parliament.

Together with colleague Hildegard Hümmer-Bücher, Ursula Redepenning wants to put the "face of God" into the Bavarian deputies. In the neo-Classical Maximilianeum high above the Isar it was considered infra-dig for the few women members of the Christian Social and Social Democratic Parties to speak on political matters. The Social Democrats showed more forbearance than the Christian Social Union.

She wished to prove that in the Bavarian Provincial Assembly. "We must alter a lot of procedure as the generation of forty-year-olds has conformed too much," says Ursula who has been appointed member of several committees by the ten-strong FDP group.

She says that the voters support this pledge of hers. Standing in Munich constituency with strong competition from the SPD and CSU she managed to improve her position on the FDP list from fourteenth to third.

Rolf Henkel
(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 18 January 1971)

FDP woman member in Munich provincial assembly shocks

Many old-time parliamentarians sat open-mouthed when the first speaker of the new legislative period in the Bavarian Provincial Assembly strode to the stained oak rostrum a few weeks ago.

The speaker was a 26-year-old woman with an auburn maxi and blonde hair. On top of this she was pretty, eloquent, intelligent, charming and - a woman. Nothing of the sort had ever happened before in the venerable Bavarian parliament.

Ursula Redepenning is a Free Democrat and one of the youngest members of parliament in the Federal Republic. She soon hit the headlines. In Munich she started a campaign with the aim of allowing children to play on lawns with "Keep off" signs.

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afte Erich Mende had given up the leadership and the new liberal course was becoming evident.

At first she did not believe that she would ever have a political career. She only wanted to draw the logical conclusion from her realisation - at an age when people are members of the extra-Parliamentary opposition - that throwing stones achieves nothing and that working with the establishment is essential.

As the elections came closer, she saw that many women did not know their democratic rights and often did not want to know them. "Politics is a man's game," she was often told and the conversation was over. Ursula Redepenning then started to make women interested in politics in anti-coffee mornings.

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She joined the FDP three years ago just



governing his organisation would probably be submitted to the Bundestag for its first reading at the beginning of February.

The Bill was discussed by the Bundesrat in December after having been passed by the Cabinet. At present various departments concerned with the Bill are discussing the changes they want made.

Hans Iven believes that the Cabinet will deal with the Bill once again after these negotiations. He says that talks are still going on with the post office and railways to see whether any conscientious objectors can be used there.

The average length of time with the colours for reservists is also being examined at present. The Bill proposes that the exercise period should be directly added to the basic service period of those in the replacement service. Hans Iven said that this would not however be compulsory - cases of hardship would be avoided.

Volkmar Hoffmann
(Frankfurter Rundschau, 18 January 1971)

■ THE ARTS

Munich upholds its reputation
- a city of music

The name of the person who first described Munich as a musical city is unknown but this advertisement is always welcome to those people responsible for the Bavarian city's image.

As a result no tourist leaves the bus after a round-tour of the city without the phrase about how cultural Munich is ringing in his ears.

The monthly *What's on* programme is pushed into his hand as proof and doubters can convince themselves. In October alone the inhabitants of Munich were offered 84 musical performances.

Even the most uncultural city councillor in the neo-Gothic town hall on Marienplatz now knows that Munich has a very impressive cultural past.

He announces this proudly to his guests though he is careful to conceal that he voted against the urgently needed new concert hall that would have cost the city only fifteen million Marks as the builder was a private individual.

This is Bavarian foresight, so to speak. The Bavarian city councillor prefers nebulous plans for a municipally owned hall on the east bank of the Isar to the project that had been planned right down to the smallest detail by Paolo Nestler and Carlfried Mutschler and which would have been ready by 1972.

Apart from a number of churches and small halls the only places left for concerts are the Herkulessaal in the Residenz, the Congress Hall in the Deutsches Museum that was never planned as a conservatory. In all, 4,000 seats are available.

One Mark seats
at Frankfurt
theatre

Frankfurt's new cultural adviser, Hilmar Hoffmann, 44, is planning to go to the whole hog just three months after taking office. At the beginning of the 1972-73 season he is hoping to introduce to the adventurous *Theater am Turm* the so-called "nil fee".

If his move is approved the *Theater am Turm* would become the first stage in the Federal Republic to charge a nominal sum of probably one Mark for approximately half the performances on its programme.

Hoffmann hopes that this scheme can be tried for an experimental two-year period. The nominal charge would also include the programme for the evening's entertainment.

For the rest of the plays on the programme normal prices would be charged under Hoffmann's plan.

The point behind this plan is, as the founder of the Oberhausen Festival of Film Shorts explained, improved programmes of plays, the abolition of conventional season tickets and complete freedom in production.

In addition to this Hilmar Hoffmann considers a full theatre far more important than full coffers. For "cultural" theatre where plays of not great cultural value are produced audiences would still have to pay for admission in future.

The green light must be given by the municipal authorities before this bold plan can go ahead. If such a policy decision is made by them it would then be up to the committee that will manage the *Theater am Turm* to decide which plays will be one Mark all seats and which will be full price.

(Kölner Nachrichten, 9 January 1971)

DIE WELT

"Munich - the City of Music"

Anyone acquainted with the shortage of accommodation soon becomes more sceptical. The fact that regular concerts are given is a miracle as the available space is shared by the Munich Philharmonic Orchestra (under Rudolf Kempe), the Bavarian Radio Symphony Orchestra (Rafael Kubelik), the Bavarian State Orchestra (under Wolfgang Sawallisch from the autumn of 1971), the Kurt Graunke Symphony Orchestra, the Munich Chamber Orchestra (Hans Stadtmair), the Musica Viva, the Studio for Modern Music and the Musik unserer Zeit group, to mention only the most important.

These ensembles would be performing three operas by Rossini and Verdi, three plays receiving their first ever performances in Wiesbaden, the Teatro Comunale Giuseppe Verdi (from Trieste) or first German performances and the Alvin Nikolai Dance Theater on the Berlin stages.

(from New York) would be showing

three premieres within four days were

to be held in Wiesbaden for the first time.

Three things are different when relatively unknown artists venture into the larger concert halls. Several seats remained empty for a Jessye Norman song recital, one of the most important events so far this season.

Audiences still do not know that cellist

Jan Polák is not equalled by many cellists preserved in wax. The Hercules Hall was half empty when he gave a scintillating performance of Kodály's Opus 8 for solo cello.

This is not the only reason why the avant-garde finds things tough in Munich. The Musica Viva has lost the artistic and social reputation it acquired under Karl Amadeus Hartmann.

On top of this come a series of concerts arranged by the Theatre Community, the Volkstheater, the Wiederstein and Vedder agencies and the Munich Concert Agency that had been planned right down to the smallest detail by Paolo Nestler and Carlfried Mutschler and which would have been ready by 1972.

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People flock to see Nuremberg-born pianist András Watts, pianist Benedetti Michelangeli or Gulda demonstrating to an enthusiastic audience his theory that everything depends on interpretation.

Names such as Grace Bumbry, Franco Corelli, Karl Richter, Sergiu Celibidache, Shura Cherkassky or a famous Russian orchestra soon bring the audiences flocking to the concert halls.

But things are different when relatively unknown artists venture into the larger concert halls. Several seats remained empty for a Jessye Norman song recital, one of the most important events so far this season.

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(Kölner Nachrichten, 9 January 1971)

Wide variety at
Wiesbaden's
May Festival

Wiesbaden's International Festival 1971 will include 29 performances with artistes and companies from ten different countries. The Festival, which will be held from 30 April to 6 June, has been subsidised by the government of the capital of Hesse state with grant of 360,000 Marks.

Alfred Erich Sistig, manager of Wiesbaden State theater, said that among the artistes who had already made name for themselves with previous performances in Wiesbaden the Teatro Comunale Giuseppe Verdi (from Trieste) or first German performances and the Alvin Nikolai Dance Theater on the Berlin stages.

Recently there has been a spate of plays receiving their first ever performances in Wiesbaden. The *Handelsblatt* Industrieblatt

recently

had already been broadcast on television in Wiesbaden for the first time.

These ensembles would be performing three plays that did not set the cash desks ringing and brought in very little in the way of proceeds for the Berlin theater.

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Three operas by Rossini and Verdi, three plays receiving their first ever performances in Wiesbaden, the Teatro Comunale Giuseppe Verdi (from Trieste) or first German performances and the Alvin Nikolai Dance Theater on the Berlin stages.

This was an attempt to dramatise the Congo crisis of 1960-61 and up till now it has not been performed in Europe. The author is an Irish writer, a university lecturer, a diplomat and at present a Member of Parliament in Dublin.

At the time of the action of the play he was in existence for four years.

From the point of view of the theme

it would be the most important, and from the audience's point of view the most attractive would also be putting on "Tent" which was

already broadcast on television in

Sweden.

Unfortunately for him many times when his production went off the rails there were hoots of derisive laughter from the audience. This was an uncomfortable evening's entertainment, and the actors were powerless to save it with the material on hand.

Old friends appearing in Wiesbaden again would be the Bulgarian State Company, from Sofia, and probably the Bolshoi Ballet, from Moscow.

To provide variety there will be

three operas by Rossini and Verdi, three plays receiving their first ever performances in Wiesbaden, the Teatro Comunale Giuseppe Verdi (from Trieste) or first German performances and the Alvin Nikolai Dance Theater on the Berlin stages.

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These are the characters who in their party pieces and amorous adventures, sometimes with restraint, sometimes with superior airs, either lost the day or triumphed.

With the one-acter *Hansel* (Jackie) presented by the *Werkstatt* group as a premiere we saw once again the work of a young playwright from Graz.

Franz Buchrieser, 32, follows in the footsteps of Peter Handke and Wolfgang Bauer. The scene is the living-dining room in the petty bourgeois house in which the generation gap between the father and son comes to head at, of all times, Christmas.

At the beginning the old man does virtually all the talking, chastising the

boastful, aimless, day-to-day life of the

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■ MOTORING

23 million brochures publicise new highway code

Hannoversche Allgemeine

This third weekend in January one of the largest-scale publicity campaigns ever will mark the beginning of the final stage of preparations for the new highway code due to come into force, bringing both the rules of the road and road signs up to date, on March 1.

Transport Minister Georg Leber is the man ultimately responsible for a mammoth imprint of 23 million full-colour brochures explaining and illustrating the new rules of the road and distributed to every household in the country.

In a short introduction Herr Leber describes the main aim of the reform, which is the most comprehensive there has ever been in this country, as that of ensuring "greater safety on the roads of Europe".

Rules, regulations and road signs now conform fully to those in neighbouring countries. The Federal Republic motorist can now "feel at home anywhere in Europe".

The many new rules, he writes, have been introduced with but one aim in view — "Drive clearly, communicate with one another. So that everyone knows what the others have in mind and can decide accordingly".

In order to make the brochure as attractive as possible the Road Safety Council, which is responsible for the entire campaign, has included in it a road safety test with more than 300 holidays to be won.

One day in September 1965 a motorist on the Bremen-Hamburg autobahn witnessed a fatal road accident — one of many that occur on this country's overcrowded roads day by day.

Hans-Hermann Stührenberg, 52, an architect from the tiny village of Plönshöhe near Detmold, saw a Volkswagen estate car skid and impale itself on the end of a crash barrier. Five of the six marines in the car died.

Stührenberg was only one of a number of motorists who happened to witness the crash and its outcome but his reaction differed from that of the many others who drive away again, a little shaken, perhaps, but soon forget the chaotic scene because death on the roads is felt to be something inevitable, a stroke of fate.

The young victims, Stührenberg reasoned after confrontation with the catastrophe, could well have survived had they not fallen foul of a sure cause of accidents, the open ends of the steel girders that function as crash barriers by the side and in the central reservations of German autobahns.

Since when the problem of crash barriers on which cars can be impaled like stuck pigs has preoccupied architect Stührenberg.

On business trips, at weekends and later on weekdays too he carried out comprehensive studies of the crash barriers on the autobahn between Herford and Hanover and Hanover and Hamburg.

He made a note of every point at which the crash barriers represented an accident risk, either taking photographs or making sketches.

"Many authorities," his wife says, "are calling her husband's first contacts with the powers that be and their reactions."

Stührenberg finally set out the comprehensive results of his private research in a three-part study he soberly outlined in newspaper and television interviews

It also includes a vest pocket illustrated highway code that motorists must have read before they can hope either to get the answers right and win a free holiday or drive safely and correctly after March 1.

Yet they merely mark the beginning of the final stage of a thirteen-million-Mark campaign to prepare the general public for the changes.

Television and cinema newsreels will be lending a hand with any number of short films. Four special postage stamps are to be issued in February drawing attention to four of the main changes. Special material is to be employed to bring the changes home to schoolchildren.

Foreign-language issues of the brochure have been printed for the nearly two million foreign workers in the country, 100,000 each in Turkish, Serbo-Croat, Greek, Italian and Spanish, 40,000 in Portuguese and 20,000 in French.

The organisers are less worried about foreign workers and schoolchildren than about the millions of experienced motorists who feel so safe on the roads that they often fail to notice changes. It is hoped to reach them via television and magazines if nothing else.

The new highway code regulations affect pedestrians as well as motorists. For the pedestrians zebra crossings are an even better bet. Motorists will now only be allowed to overtake before a zebra crossing provided they can clearly see



New highway code brochures to be handed out to members of the public

(Photo: Hannoversche Allgemeine)

that they will not then represent a safety hazard to pedestrians.

Pedestrians also have priority over motor vehicles rounding a corner but on country roads in the dark they must keep well to the left, proceed in single file if need be and preferably — for safety's sake — wear something brightly coloured.

The number of road signs has, if anything, increased but the Ministry nonetheless hopes there will be fewer of them on the roads. That at least is the intention.

Four new road signs are particularly important because they will make their appearance over night as it were at corners everywhere.

First there is the new octagonal stop sign. Red with a white border it is a newcomer to virtually every country in Europe. Its shape makes it recognisable

even when the legend is obscured by snow and dirt.

It means stop whatever happens. The triangle with the apex pointing downwards continues to mean slow,慢, road ahead. An arrow with a fine line through it on the usual upright triangle means road-users have right of way at the intersection only.

A major road is indicated by a yellow lozenge with a white border. It supersedes the existing lozenge in red on white; also the Federal highway number, which is no longer a guarantee that the road is priority.

Maximum speeds will continue as before but the newcomer, a blue circle with figures on it, indicates a minimum speed.

Anyone who holds up traffic is liable to prosecution.

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 15 January 1971)

Detmold architect tackles road safety hazard

"were amazed to begin with that an ordinary man in the street is capable of spotting anything that is not in order".

Later though, when Stührenberg tirelessly informed the police, autobahn and road depots of the results of his industrious and expensive research (Stührenberg himself reckons to have spent 80,000 Marks in the process) the scepticism and polite but cool distance that private endeavour often encounters when mistaken for the work of a busybody gradually gave way to respect and support.

Stührenberg's family lent him enthusiastic support, proving willing to make sacrifices. His wife dealt with the correspondence and two of his four sons either accompanied their father on his extended tours of inspection or worked overtime in the family firm of builder's joiners to pay for the cost of their private accident researches.

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"Many authorities," his wife says, "are calling her husband's first contacts with the powers that be and their reactions."

last Christmas. In recognition of his courage and work for the public good Bonn State Secretary Ildegard Flans Brücher wrote, he is to be awarded the Theodor Heuss Medal on 14 February in Munich.

The body responsible for awarding the Theodor Heuss medals and prizes is the Theodor Heuss Foundation, set up in 1964, which hopes that its annual award in memory of the late Federal President will help to promote freedom and democracy.

People to whom the award has already been made include Bundeswahlreformer Graf Baudissin, author Günter Grass, President Heinemann, TV commentator Hans Heigert and the Student to the Country campaign, which a few years ago made a concerted effort to persuade working people to allow their children to benefit from higher education.

This is not to mention Mannheim public prosecutor Frau Just-Dahmann, a committed critic of the mealy-mouthed morals of the section of the criminal code dealing with sexual offences, and Karin Storch, a young Frankfurt girl who some years ago called for disobedience in a school-leaving ceremony speech.

Even so it was not until the end of 1969 that the "courageous architect" was rewarded for his hard work. After Ministry of Transport specialists had discussed the Stührenberg report ("An impressive piece of work, sober and free from emotion," according to Ministerial Counsellor Busch) with Herr Stührenberg in person the Ministry issued instructions for the elimination of the killer crash barriers.

Now that a chance encounter has made a traffic expert of him he is working tirelessly on another project. Worried by the protest lodged by top-flight race drivers all over the world he is planning to check how safe the Nürburgring racetrack is.

(Karlsruhe Rundschau, 15 January 1971)

Guess who's got more 747s than any other airline?



Right the first time. Pan Am.

Pan Am 747s are now flying across the Atlantic to the U.S.A. From the U.S.A. to the Caribbean. And to the Middle Pacific, the South Pacific and the Orient.

Wherever you go on our 747, it won't add a penny to your fare.

All you have to do is call a Pan Am® Travel Agent. Or call Pan Am. And say you want the plane with two wide aisles and wide-

screen movies*. And the separate sections for smokers and nonsmokers. And the extra blue-and-gold stewardesses. And the In-Flight Service Director who's in charge of everything.

In other words, just ask for the plane that has it all.

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